[17th March 1954

SRI KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" May I know, Sir, whether the figures given by the Hon. Minister relating to the appointment of Deputy Collectors include Muslims also and if so, how many of them are Muslims? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I cannot give the exact number. But I may tell the hon. Member that there is an appreciable number of Muslims compared to their population and other factors."

Problem of unemployment.

* 213 *Q.*—SRI S. RAMALINGAM (on behalf of Sri A. Ratnam) : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether there are any proposals with the Government to solve the problem of unemployment in the State; and if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) :—" The attention of the Hon. Member is invited to the answers given to starred question No. 97 on 1st March 1954 and supplementaries thereon. There were a good number of supplementaries on that day."

Purchase of skimmed milk powder for the Government Milk Factory.

* 214 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the quantity of skimmed milk powder purchased for the Government Milk Factory, Madras, during 1952–53;

(*b*) the procedure adopted in regard to the purchase; and

(*c*) what would have been the gain to the Government, if the Government had purchased skimmed milk powder direct from foreign countries during 1952–53 for use in the above factory?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) A total quantity of 163,412 lb. (about 73 tons) was purchased during 1952–53.

(*b*) A limited tender system of a type contemplated in the Madras Financial Code is being adopted in the purchase of the skimmed milk powder. Under this system, tenders for the required quantity are called for from certain selected reputed firms in the City of Madras and the lowest tender consistent with quality is being accepted.

(*c*) Milk powder is imported from foreign countries like Holland, Denmark, Belgium, Sweden, Australia and New Zealand. Having regard to the relatively small quantities required for the Government Milk Factory, Government do not think that any gain would have accrued to them if they had set up their own buying organizations for making direct purchases from these countries."